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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Austria

CONFIDENTIAL

DATE DISTR. 9 June 1950

SUBJECT Financial Situation of the
Communist Party of Austria

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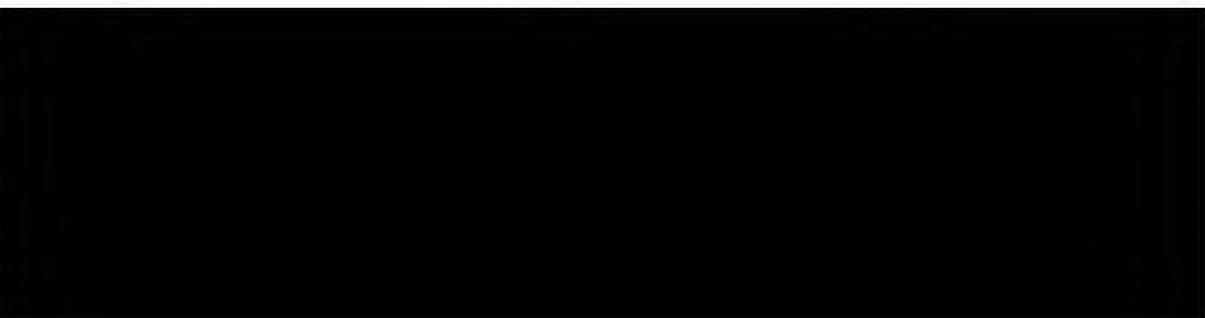
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1. According to Augustin Hammer, district secretary of the Communist Party of Austria in Voelkermarkt, Carinthia, those secretariats of Communist Party of Austria district boards which cannot be maintained by membership dues will cease to be official party offices; only honorary secretaries will in the future be employed in these positions. Hammer himself lost his salaried position as a permanent secretary of the district board on 1 January 1950.
2. It is not known whether the district secretariats in Upper Austria have been dissolved. It is worth mentioning, however, that Hubert Fliesser, secretary of the Linz town district board of the Communist Party of Austria, emphasized at a district functionaries' meeting in Linz in early 1950 that funds were at a low ebb, and payment of salaries to district secretaries was almost impossible. Fliesser said that his salary was paid by installments.
3. About 600 Austrian schillings per month are paid directly from the provincial boards to all district functionaries, while district secretaries are mostly paid from membership dues, so-called combat funds and voluntary donations. About 300 to 400 Austrian schillings are paid monthly to cover the expenses of the district secretariats.
4. Plans to employ part-time personnel were discussed as early as 1947 but were abandoned because of the resulting organizational difficulties.

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